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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|-----------|---|------------------|---|---------------------|
| Applicant | : | Taran, et al. |) | Group Art Unit 2827 |
| Appl. No. | : | 09/830,634 |) | |
| Filed | : | April 27, 2001 |) | |
| For | : | MULTILAYERED |) | |
| | | CONNECTION PLATE |) | |
| Examiner | : | Norris, J. |) | |

#9
Letter
J. McMillan
9/11/02
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TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

SUMMARY OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATIONS REGARDING NOTICE OF NON-
COMPLIANT AMENDMENT

United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 2327
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) issued a Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment, dated July 19, 2002. The notice indicated that the amendment filed June 17, 2002 by Applicant was non-compliant for failing to include a marked up copy of the Abstract.

However, in Applicant's amendment the entire Abstract was canceled and a new Abstract was provided. A copy of the new Abstract, on its own page, was also included as part of the amendment. As noted in MPEP 714, a marked up version does not have to be supplied for any added paragraph or any deleted paragraph, as it is sufficient to merely indicate or identify any paragraph that has been added or deleted.

Applicant's representative, on August 4, 2002, contacted Legal Instruments Examiner Juliet McMillan of the PTO to discuss the alleged non-compliance. After exchanging a series of phone messages, Ms. McMillan indicated in a phone message, on August 4, 2002, to Applicant's representative Raymond B. Hom that the Amendment was compliant and to disregard the Notice

Appl. No. : 09/830,634
Filed : April 27, 2001

of Non-Compliant Amendment. Ms. McMillan indicated that non-compliant status was removed and the file would be forwarded to the Examiner.

Applicant provides this summary of the telephone messages for inclusion in the application file. Applicant believes that the application is currently pending with no need to respond to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment, dated July 19, 2002.

If there are any questions relating to this correspondence, please feel free to contact Applicant's representative at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 8/21/02

By: _____

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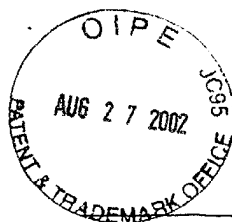
GP/ 2827

PATENT

Case Docket No. VALER12.001APC

Date: August 21, 2002

Page 1



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In re application of : Taran, et al.
App. No. : 09/830,634
Filed : April 27, 2001
For : MULTILAYERED CONNECTION
PLATE
Examiner : Norris, J.
Art Unit : 2827

) I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked
) attachments are being deposited with the United States
) Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed
) to: United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. 2327,
) Arlington, VA 22202, on

August 21, 2002

(Date)

John M. Carson, Reg. No. 34,303

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
P.O. Box 2327
Arlington, VA 22202

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is the following in the above-identified application.

- (X) Summary of Telephone Conversations Regarding Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment.
- (X) The present application qualifies for small entity status under 37 C.F.R. § 1.27.
- (X) Return prepaid postcard.
- (X) Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

John M. Carson
Registration No. 34,303
Attorney of Record
Customer No. 20,995

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